

AUGUST—SEPTEMBER 2015

# boisvert update



“... who will teach others also” (2 Timothy 2:2).

To Our Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

**W**E REJOICE in your love for Christ and His work on earth which spills over to us! Thank you for your support in prayer and finances that make us able to represent you in East Africa, South Sudan, and Mongolia.

## AUGUST MODULES IN EAST AFRICA

Cheryl and I have just returned from Uganda and Kenya where we are seeing great growth in the training programs there.

In Kenya, at Christ Army Mobile School Of Ministry (CAMSOM), we heard great reports of the internship that was introduced in July for all the “students” who had graduated earlier this year and the current students being trained. Each student is taking turns spending one week in a mostly-Muslim-village setting where they are doing door-to-door evangelism and counseling new believers in conjunction with a new Church Plant that has just started. Thanks to one of our supporting churches, which financed the initial startup of this program, students have worked out their own schedules to make sure the Church Planting Pastor has at least two or three of them in attendance every Sunday as part of the new Church’s startup. It is exciting to be part of the dream of **Pastor Thomas Odari**,



*Interns Assist with a Village Church Plant in Kenya*

the founder of CAMSOM, of releasing an army of trained men for the villages of Western Kenya! Cheryl was able to train a class of hand-picked ladies on how to teach and become leaders of future women’s training programs and ministries. One woman said, “In our schools, the teachers are often harsh, but the students take it because they want to learn. But what I see is that when you are teaching the Bible, you must be like Jesus.”

Exactly!

In Uganda, Doug was blessed to be part of developing and teaching the final level of training (BA level) for the Bukeeka Evangelical School of Theology (BEST). These men have worked hard to become true students of the Word of God and have grown

significantly, helping the School gain credibility in the area. A new group of women was added to the Ladies Classes and assured us that this training will continue after we have been moved on by the Lord to introduce Tri-M elsewhere.

It is rather a bittersweet time when we see these training programs grow and take on lives of their own. As soon as a program becomes strong and vibrant, it is usually the time for us to fade out, as local individuals take on the responsibilities and privileges of the success of the training. However, this allows us to repeat the same process elsewhere where there is a need to get this kind of training up and running.

Normally this time of year we also travel

to Tanzania, however, due to the elections next month, there was great concern that we foreigners might attract too much attention as we traveled the countryside. So the Tanzanians decided that it was best if we did not come and that they teach the courses themselves in the various villages. We were delighted to provide the necessary materials and see them take on that responsibility! It also marks a significant change in those training sites—which have been growing slowly but now seem to be rapidly moving forward—to be taught almost entirely by Tanzanians.

Doug is scheduled to attend a graduation in January and visit and teach in the newest site that has been opened and taught solely by Tanzanians. They have requested Doug's presence in order to add credibility to the program by validation from "outsiders," like Doug.



Tri-M Training Expansion in Tanzania

## MEET FRED

When I (Cheryl) was a new bride, I was told that the best way to clean house was to always do something *on the way to doing something else*. That advice was good! It means the efficient use of time and energy. Often God uses the same plan when cleaning up the world—and that is what He required of me last August.

When in Africa, my primary calling and desire is to train women in the things of God, to help them to know God in such a way that they are better wives, mothers, neighbors, and church members. I teach for five or six hours each day and



Fred with the Odari Kids

then spend some hours each evening preparing for the next day's lessons. In Kenya we are guests of **Pastor Thomas and Veroniah**, so I usually like to take some time talking with Veroniah while she prepares our meals. It is a full day!

The Odaris employ a 16-year-old young man named **Fred**, who works for them chopping grass for the cow, bringing water, and whatever else might need to be done. On the first evening we taught, Veroniah mentioned that Fred saw me teaching in the church building and wanted me to "be his teacher and give him homework." I couldn't imagine what that might mean. The next evening, as Fred was standing quietly at the door of the kitchen where I was talking to Veroniah, she repeated, "Fred wants you to be his teacher and give him homework." I looked at Fred, who nodded. I asked him what he would like to be taught, and he replied, "The Bible". Being a rather large subject, I tried to narrow it down a bit, but Fred had no idea about what he wanted to know. By this time I was beginning to feel like God was setting me up, so I asked, "Fred, do you know Jesus as your Savior?" From the cook-fire on the opposite side of the room, I heard Veroniah say, "No, he doesn't." I looked at Fred again, who shook his head, affirming what was said.

Now I knew what to do! When Fred finished

his work that evening, he sat down with me, and I presented the Gospel, complete with a pad full of drawings and of course, the Scriptures, which he read aloud. Being the rainy season of the year, it poured rain on the house's metal roof all the while we talked. As I was about to invite Fred to trust Christ, the rain stopped, and Fred told me he had to leave and begin walking home because he lived far away and it was getting late. (Sigh. I was sure that our time together had been a foiled opportunity, but I was wrong!) I saw Fred the next morning on the road; he stopped me and asked if I would teach him more. So the following night we spoke again—with rain again pounding on the roof. But this time, after explaining to Fred the plan of salvation, I asked him if he wanted to receive Christ as his Savior. He said "Yes," and then we prayed. We talked about being new, about reading the Bible, praying, and going to church. At that point, Fred stopped me and told me he couldn't go to church. No, his parents would not prevent him, but he thought he could not go because he did not have a Bible. Thanks to a gift from one of our supporters, Pastor Thomas will see to it that Fred *does* get a Bible, and he will also care for Fred's discipling.

The rest of the week? Like my house cleaning work, I went on to finish teaching my class, having cared for Fred's soul on the way. Praise God, Who sometimes insists that we notice a need as we go about our task.

## NEXT TEACHING TIME

Our next trip will be near the end of September—to Mongolia. Doug will travel with his Pastor, **Keith Treadway**, and **Pastor Ron McDugle**. The students are almost at the halfway point of their curriculum.

*The Boisvert Update* is published bimonthly as a service to interested friends and supporters. Boisvert's sending church is Springville Baptist in Springville, Pennsylvania.

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